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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for identification and tracking of tags distributed in a room, the system comprising,

a laser base station for scanning laser beams,

a tag reactive to incident laser beams to provide a data signal,

and

a tag tracking system receiving input from the laser base station, the tag tracking system storing state records of position and informational content of the tag.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag tracking system determines angular position of the tag with respect to the laser base station.

3. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least two laser base stations, and wherein the tag tracking system determines absolute position of the tag based on input from at least two laser base stations.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag is passive.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag is active, having an internal power supply to power a data broadcast element.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag is active, having an internal power supply to power an optical data output element.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag is active, having an internal power supply to power a radio data output element.

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claim* 8. The system of claim 1, wherein the tag is active, having an internal power supply to power an acoustic data output element.

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